

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Makoto SAITOSerial Number: **Unassigned**Group Art Unit: **Unassigned**Filed: **April 16, 2001**Examiner: **Unassigned**For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROTECTING DIGITAL DATA BY
DOUBLE RE-ENCRYPTION****PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 16, 2001

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 7, with the following

rewritten paragraph:

--In the description of the above embodiment, the encryption unit 20 and the decryption unit 21 are contained in the changeable key encryption/decryption unit 19 and the encryption unit 16 and the decryption unit 17 are contained in the unchangeable key encryption/decryption unit 15. Of course, it goes without saying that these units 16, 17, 20 and 21 may also be separately provided.--